

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (previously canceled)

9. (currently amended) A joint for supporting a ball-bearing control cable passing through a guiding tube in a wall from a first side of said wall to a second side of said wall, ~~said guiding tube having two sections, each with at least a first end, said cable including an element which is longitudinally movable within said guiding tube, said joint comprising:~~

a nut to be disposed on said first side of said wall and having a threaded sleeve extending from said nut, said threaded sleeve being configured to pass through said wall, said nut having an axial cavity with ~~at least one~~ spherical wall which opens ~~outward in a divergent bore~~ inside said threaded sleeve;

a ring formed in the shape of a portion of a ball, and disposed in said axial cavity of said nut, said ring being ~~adapted to rotate~~ dimensioned for rotating freely in all directions within said axial cavity of said nut and being in contact with said at least one spherical wall of said nut; ~~said ring being configured to receive one end of each of said two sections of said guiding tube, so that said one ends of said two sections of said guiding tube may be assembled coaxially within said ring; and~~

a lock-nut ~~adapted to be threaded on said threaded sleeve, to be located~~ on said second side of said wall; and

said guiding tube comprising two sections, each with a first end assembled coaxially within said ring and extending on both sides thereof, respectively, so that a first of the two sections extends on one side of said ring and a second of the two sections extends on another side of said ring, said guiding tube being dimensioned for facilitating longitudinal movement of an element of the control cable within said guiding tube.

10. (previously presented) The joint of claim 9, wherein said first ends of said two sections of said guiding tube are configured to mate with each other, and thereby tighten said ring.

11. (withdrawn) The joint of claim 9, wherein said ring is tapped and said first ends of said two sections of said guiding tube are configured to mate with each other to thereby threadedly engage said ring.

12. (previously presented) The joint of claim 9, wherein said guiding tube includes a flange, and said ring includes a throat for engaging said flange, and said throat has a stop for preventing movement of said guiding tube through said ring beyond a predetermined point.

13. (currently amended) The joint of claim 9, wherein said nut defines a plane; and wherein said axial cavity of said nut includes two lateral notches, said two lateral notches being disposed diametrically opposite to each other, each of said lateral notches having an annular length which is greater than ~~the~~ a width of said ring so as to allow extraction of said ring in a plane perpendicular to said plane defined by said nut.

14. (previously presented) The joint of claim 9, wherein said guiding tube includes a lateral wall, having at least two diametrically opposed flat portions, for permitting said guiding tube to be gripped for fixing said guiding tube to said ring.

15. (currently amended) The joint of claim 9, wherein said nut includes an annular shoulder having a face abutting said wall ~~through which said ball bearing control cable passes.~~

16. (previously presented) The joint of claim 9, wherein said axial cavity and said divergent bore each include beveled outer lateral edges, whereby a limiting angle of clearance of said guiding tube may be increased.